

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended)

A sealing arrangement {2, 28, 40, 47} which seals at least one radial interspace {21} between at least one inner bearing ring {3, 41, 52} and at least one outer bearing ring {5, 33, 42, 49}, the radial interspace being a region where neither bearings nor bearing rings axially overlap, it being the case that the sealing arrangement {2, 28, 40, 47} comprising

- is provided with at least a first support {17, 30, 43, 48a}, the first support {17, 30, 43, 48a} bearing at least one elastic seal {18, 34, 39, 44, 51},
- has a second support {19, 32, 37, 45, 48b}, the second support {19, 32, 37, 45, 48b} bearing at least one encoder {10} arranged outside the interspace {21}, and the encoder {10} being oriented radially toward at least one sensor {14} arranged above the encoder {10} in the radially outward direction,
- has a dirt deflector {23, 31, 53} on the inner bearing ring {3, 41, 52}, the dirt deflector {23, 31, 53} and the first support {17, 30, 43, 48a} being arranged such that they can be rotated relative to one another, and the seal {18, 34, 39, 44, 51} butting at least against the dirt deflector {23, 31, 53},

characterized in that wherein the encoder engages around the inner bearing ring, and in that the encoder {10} is covered fully at least in the radial direction and at least partially in the axial direction by means of a covering element {20, 29, 48}, the covering element {20, 29, 48} being rotationally fixed on one of the bearing rings {3, 5, 33, 41, 42, 49, 52}, and

wherein neither the encoder nor the sensor penetrate into the interspace.

2. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the covering element {20, 29, 48} at least partially covers the seal {18, 34, 39, 44, 51}.

3. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the covering element {20, 29, 48} is formed integrally with the first support {17, 30, 48a} made of sheet metal.

4. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that wherein the covering element {20} is fixed on a radially outer surface section {5a} of the outer bearing ring {5}.

5. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that wherein the covering element {29, 48} is fixed on an inner surface of the outer bearing ring {33, 49}.

6. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that wherein, starting from the outer bearing ring {5, 33, 49}, the covering element {20, 29, 48} first of all extends axially away from the outer bearing ring {5, 33, 49} and radially between the sensor {14} and the encoder {10}, and covers the encoder {01} in the radial direction in the process, in that the covering element {20, 29, 48} then extends radially inward and covers

the encoder {10} and the interspace {21} in the axial direction in the process, and in that the covering element {20, 29, 48}, finally, extends axially in the direction of rolling bodies {6} and accommodates the seal {18, 34, 51}.

7. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the covering element {48} is formed integrally with the second support {48b}.

8. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the dirt deflector {23, 31} and the second support {19, 32} are formed in one piece from sheet metal.

9. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that wherein, starting from the dirt deflector {23, 31}, and arranged radially between the seal {18, 34} and the inner bearing ring {3, 52}, the second support {19, 32} is first of all oriented axially in the direction of rolling bodies {6} and then runs radially outward away from the inner bearing ring {3, 52}, between the rolling bodies {6} and the seal {18, 34}, and in that the second support {19, 32}, finally, is oriented axially in the direction of the covering element {20, 29} and has the encoder {10}.

10. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein the dirt deflector and the covering element {46} are formed in one piece.

11. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the covering element {46} first of all is seated firmly on the inner bearing ring {41} and then extends radially outward from the inner bearing ring {41}, the covering element {46} engaging partially around the outer bearing ring {42} in the radially outward direction, it being spaced apart radially from the outer bearing ring {42}.

12. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the encoder {10} is arranged radially between the outer bearing ring {42} and the covering element {46}.

13. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the encoder {10} is fixed on the outer bearing ring {42} in the radially outward direction.

14. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the seal {18, 34, 44, 51} butts axially against the dirt deflector {23, 31, 53} by way of at least one sealing lip {22, 34a, 44b, 44c, 51c}.

15. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the seal {18, 34, 39, 51} butts radially against the dirt deflector {23, 31, 53} by way of at least one sealing lip {22, 34b, 34c, 51b}.

16. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the seal {44, 51} butts directly against the inner bearing ring {41, 52} by way of at least one sealing lip {44d, 51a}.

17. (Currently Amended)

The sealing arrangement as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the seal {18, 34} and the dirt deflector {23, 31} enclose between them an annular cavity {25, 35, 36} filled with a lubricating grease.